THUNGON): (a) and (b). Out of 2 Central Public Sector Enterprises having their registered office in the State of Gujarat one namely NTC (Gujarat) Ltd., has been incurring losses continuously for the last three years. enterprise-specific action is required to be taken by the concerned administrative Ministry or the management of the enterprise to improve its performance. Some of the steps taken are modernisation, upgradation of technology, improvement of product-mix, financial and managerial restructuring of the enterprise etc. This enterprise is also required to be referred to BIFR under provisions of amended SICA.

Criticism of new Industrial Policy

4545. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the wide spread criticism of its new industrial policy;

(b) if so, the main point of criticism of the new industrial policy;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-examine the new industrial policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). After the announcement of the New Industrial Policy in July, 1991, it has been widely discussed in the Parliament and the Press. There has been a broad degree of consensus in favour of the New Policy. The response to the New Policy has so far been very encouraging. Consequently, there appears to be no reason to re-examine the new Policy.

[*Translation*]

Retrenchment of Workers in Public Sector Undertakings

4546. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision to allow the retrenchment of workers in various public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether any such demand or proposal for retrenchment of workers has been received by the Union Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). The provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 apply equally to the Public Sector as well as private sector units. The Industrial Disputes Act lays down the procedure for retrenchment of workers in certain circumstances. This can be done by the Public Sector Enterprises only after obtaining the prior approval of the appropriate authority . According to the information available with the Government, M/s Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. have sought permission of the Central Government to retrench employees in various projects. M/s Paradeep Phosphate Ltd., Bhubaneshwar, Orissa and M/s. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh, have sought permission from the appropriate authorities of State Government to retrench 70 and 335 workers respectively.